

(72) THORN, DUANE, CA

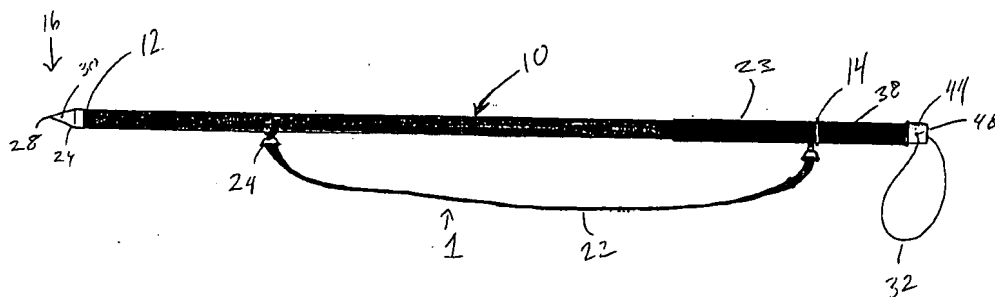
(71) THORN, DUANE, CA

(51) Int. Cl.⁶ A45B 5/00, A45B 3/14, A63B 29/08, A45B 7/00, A45B 1/00

(30) 1998/08/05 (60/095,473) US

(54) **BATON DE SURVIE**

(54) **SURVIVAL STICK**



(57) A multi-purpose walking stick comprising a shaft, a spike and a blade is herein described. The walking stick further includes an adjustable and detachable shoulder strap and a detachable wrist strap. The shaft is hollow and has an open end, a threaded end and a storage compartment located within the shaft for storing items such as flares, matches, cords, a first aid kit and the like. The tool exists in a first condition wherein the spike is screwed onto the threaded end of the shaft and the knife is screwed into the threaded open end of the shaft. In this arrangement, the tool is used for example as a walking stick or as a lever or fulcrum for providing leverage. If needed as a general purpose or camp knife, the knife may be removed from the open end of the shaft. In the second condition, the knife is screwed onto the threaded end such that the knife extends from the shaft and the spike is fitted into the open end of the shaft. In this arrangement, the blade of the knife extends from the shaft so that the survival tool can be used to keep wild animals at bay or for other uses, for example, for spear fishing or as an extended machete for cutting brush from a distance.

ABSTRACT

A multi-purpose walking stick comprising a shaft, a spike and a blade is herein described. The walking stick further includes an adjustable and detachable shoulder strap and a detachable wrist strap. The shaft is hollow and has an open end, a threaded end and a storage compartment located within the shaft for storing items such as flares, matches, cords, a first aid kit and the like. The tool exists in a first condition wherein the spike is screwed onto the threaded end of the shaft and the knife is screwed into the threaded open end of the shaft. In this arrangement, the tool is used for example as a walking stick or as a lever or fulcrum for providing leverage.

If needed as a general purpose or camp knife, the knife may be removed from the open end of the shaft. In the second condition, the knife is screwed onto the threaded end such that the knife extends from the shaft and the spike is fitted into the open end of the shaft. In this arrangement, the blade of the knife extends from the shaft so that the survival tool can be used to keep wild animals at bay or for other uses, for example, for spear fishing or as an extended machete for cutting brush from a distance.

SURVIVAL STICK

The present invention relates generally to the field of wilderness tools.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 Hiking is one recreational activity whose popularity continues to increase. Typically, most hikers use a walking stick or the like for balance, which is often little more than a severed tree limb. While these sticks can be used for balance, they are hardly ideal for experienced or ambitious hikers. Specifically, the wooden stick is apt to break if used for leverage and cannot be easily carried in the event that
10 climbing is required or desired. Furthermore, the hiker still must carry other items in a backpack, such as a knife for use as a machete or for protection, a first aid kit, bungee cords and the like, to name a few. Clearly, an improved walking stick is needed that can be used for multiple purposes.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

According to an aspect of the invention, there is provided a walking stick comprising:

- a hollow shaft having a first end and an open second end;
- a ground-engaging member arranged to be attached to the first end of
20 the shaft; and
- a knife having:
 - a handle;
 - a blade extending from the handle; and

a threaded end extending from the handle opposite the blade,
said threaded end arranged to be attached to the first end of the shaft;

said walking stick having a first condition wherein the blade of the knife
is inserted into the open second end of the shaft such that the handle of the knife
5 extends therefrom and the ground-engaging member is attached to the first end of the
shaft and a second condition wherein the knife is attached to the first end of the shaft
such that the blade of the knife extends from the first end of the shaft and the ground-
engaging member is attached to the second end of the shaft.

The walking stick may include a storage compartment within the hollow
10 shaft. The storage compartment may be accessible through an end.

The blade may include holes for attaching fishing spear clips.

The walking stick may include a shoulder strap mounted onto the shaft.

The walking stick according to claim 1 including a wrist strap mounted
onto the knife.

15 The ground-engaging member may include a point. The point may be
replaceable. The point may be composed of carbide.

The handle of the knife may include a threaded portion proximal to the
blade for screwing the knife into the second end.

The knife may include a finger guard.

20 The shaft may include a surface for sharpening blades mounted on the
shaft.

The shaft may be collapsible for easier transport. Preferably, the shaft
includes a threaded break for collapsing the shaft.

One embodiment of the invention will now be described in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

- 5 Figure 1 is a side view of the walking stick in the first condition.
- Figure 2 is a side view of the walking stick in the second condition.
- Figure 3 is an exploded view of the walking stick.
- Figure 4 is an alternative arrangement of the knife.
- Figure 5 is a top view of the knife blade.
- 10 In the drawings like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

- Referring to the drawings, a walking stick 1 comprises a hollow shaft 10,
- 15 a ground-engaging member 16 and a knife 18.

- The hollow shaft 10 includes a threaded first end 12 and a threaded open end 14. The threaded open end 14 includes a locking pin hole 15, as described below and as shown in Figure 3. The shaft 10 may be a chromium/molybdenum tube, although, as will be apparent to one knowledgeable in the art, other suitable materials
- 20 may be used as well. In this embodiment, the shaft 10 includes a storage compartment 20 within the shaft 10 as shown in Figure 3. As discussed below, this storage compartment 20 may be used for example to carry cords, matches, a first aid kit, a flashlight and other assorted survival gear as desired. In this embodiment, the

shaft 10 further includes a shoulder strap 22 connected to the shaft 10 by brackets 24. As a result of this arrangement, the effective length of the shoulder strap 22 may be varied according to user comfort, as described below. Furthermore, the shoulder strap 22 allows the walking stick 1 to be easily carried when not in use or when both hands
5 are needed. In this embodiment, the shaft 10 includes a sharpening surface 23 proximal to the threaded open end 14 of the shaft 10 for sharpening knives and other bladed items as discussed below.

In this embodiment, the ground engaging member 16 comprises a spike 24 having a threaded end 26 and a pointed end 28. In this embodiment, the spike 24
10 includes a hole 30 for attaching a wrist strap 32 for securing the walking stick 1 to the wrist of the user during use or for attaching a cord thereto, as described below. It is of note that the wrist strap 32 is arranged to be detachable. The ground engaging member 16 is arranged to be screwed onto the threaded end 12 of the shaft 10 or inserted into the threaded open end 14 of the shaft 10 as described below.

15 The knife 18 comprises a blade 36, a handle 38, a terminal threaded portion 40, an interior threaded portion 42 and a cap 44, as shown in Figure 3. In this embodiment, the blade 36 includes a plurality of holes 46 for attachment of spear fishing clips or the like as described below. In this embodiment, the handle 38 is a textured rubber grip. The handle 38 further includes a finger guard 39 positioned on
20 the handle 38 between the terminal threaded portion 40 and the interior threaded portion 42. As a result of this arrangement, the fingers of the user are prevented from accidentally contacting the blade 36 of the knife 18. The cap 44 includes a hole 48 for attaching the wrist strap 32 thereto as described below. The terminal threaded portion

40 includes a locking hole for insertion of a locking pin therethrough as described below. The knife 18 is arranged to be screwed onto the threaded end 12 of the shaft 10 or fitted into the threaded open end 14 of the shaft as described below. In this embodiment, the knife 18 is arranged to be screwed into the threaded open end 14,
5 as described below.

It is of note that, for use, the walking stick 1 is arranged to have two conditions.

In the first condition, the threaded end 26 of the spike 24 is screwed onto the threaded end 12 of the shaft and the knife 18 is inserted into the threaded
10 open end 14 of the shaft 10 such that the interior threaded portion 42 is screwed into the threaded open end 14 and the handle 38 of the knife 18 extends beyond the shaft 10. Specifically, the interior threaded portion 42 is screwed into the threaded open end 14 of the shaft 10 and the cap 44 is fitted over the terminal threaded portion 40 of the knife 18. The wrist strap 32 may then be passed through the hole 48 in the cap 44
15 for securing the walking stick 1 to the wrist of the user.

In the second condition, shown in Figure 2, the spike 24 is unscrewed from the threaded end 12 and the knife 18 is removed from the threaded open end 14 of the shaft 10. In this embodiment, the knife 18 is unscrewed from the threaded open end 14, as discussed above. The cap 44 is removed and the terminal threaded
20 portion 40 of the knife 18 is then screwed into the threaded end 12 of the shaft 10. Furthermore, the knife 18 is screwed into the threaded end 12 such that the locking hole 50 in the terminal threaded portion 40 and the locking hole 15 in the threaded end 12 are aligned and a locking pin is passed therethrough. As a result of this

arrangement, the knife 18 is securely attached to the shaft 10 such that the blade 36 of the knife 18 extends from the shaft 10. The threaded end 26 of the spike 24 is then fitted into the threaded open end 14 of the shaft 18 and the wrist strap 32 is passed through the hole 30 in the spike 24 for securing the walking stick 1 to the wrist of the user, as shown in Figure 2.

Prior to use, items such as flares, matches, cords, flashlights, a first aid kit and the like may be placed in the storage compartment 20 within the interior of the shaft 10 according to the discretion of the user and as discussed above. It is of note that the storage compartment 20 may be accessed from one of the ends of the shaft 10.

In use, with the walking stick 1 in the first condition, the user places the wrist strap 32 through the hole 48 in the cap 44 mounted onto the terminal threaded portion 40 of the knife 18 and the wrist strap 32 is then secured to the wrist of the user. During hiking, the point 28 of the spike 24 engages the ground, thereby providing support and stability. Furthermore, the shaft 10 can be used for balance or as a fulcrum or lever if leverage is needed. The knife 18 can be quickly and easily removed from the threaded open end 14 of the shaft 10 as needed, for example, if there is brush that needs to be cut or used as a camp knife or general purpose knife. Alternatively, the knife 18 may be screwed onto the threaded end 12 such that the walking stick 1 may be used as an extended machete for cutting brush from a distance, as described below. Furthermore, the blade 36 of the knife 18 can be sharpened by using the sharpening surface 23 on the shaft 10. The walking stick 1 can also be converted to the second condition as described above and as shown in

Figure 2. In this arrangement, the blade 36 of the knife 18 extends beyond the shaft 10. As a result of this arrangement, the walking stick 1 can be used for defense against wild animals or in situations where an extended knife blade is needed, such as cutting brush from a distance. Furthermore, by attaching spear fishing clips to the
5 holes 46 in the blade 36 of the knife 18 and passing a cord such as a nylon cord through the hole 30 in the spike 24, the walking stick 1 can be used for spear fishing, wherein the cord is used to retrieve the walking stick 1. It is of note that such a nylon cord may be transported in the storage compartment 20. It is of note that in either condition, the walking stick 1 can be carried by the shoulder strap 22, thereby leaving
10 both hands free.

Thus, the above-described walking stick 1 is extremely durable and versatile. All components are made to be readily serviceable and exchangeable for different applications. Specifically, the shaft 10 can be used as a fulcrum or lever and the interior of the walking stick 1 serves as a storage compartment for small items,
15 thereby freeing up space in a backpack or obviating the need for one altogether. The walking stick 1 further includes a detachable wrist strap and a detachable shoulder strap, meaning that the walking stick 1 is very transportable and easy to carry. Furthermore, in the second condition, the walking stick 1 can be used for personal defense or for spear fishing. Finally, the knife 18 can be readily removed and used on
20 its own apart from the walking stick and can also be sharpened on the sharpening surface 23 on the exterior of the shaft 10.

In an alternative embodiment, the position of the terminal threaded portion 40 on the handle 38 may be altered such that the interior threaded portion 42

and the terminal threaded portion 40 are proximal to one another and separated by the finger guard 39, such that the handle 38 extends past the terminal threaded portion 40 away from the blade 36. In this embodiment, a greater portion of the handle 38 is within the shaft 10 when the walking stick 1 is in the second condition, that is, when the terminal threaded portion 40 is screwed into the threaded end 12 and the knife 18 extends from the shaft 10. As a result of this arrangement, the handle 38 is inserted further into the shaft 10, thereby increasing leverage strength. Furthermore, it is of note that in this arrangement, the cap may be omitted.

In an alternative embodiment shown in Figure 4, the finger guard 39 is a rotating finger guard with internal threads such that the finger guard 39 is screwed directly into either threaded open end 14 or the threaded end 12, depending upon the condition of the walking stick 1.

The tip 28 of the spike 24 may be a threaded and removable carbide point for easy replacement of the ground engaging member 16 once it becomes worn down.

In some embodiments, the cap 44 may be omitted.

In an alternative embodiment, the knife 18 and the ground engaging member 16 may be attached to the shaft 10 by other means known in the art. For example, the knife 18 and the ground engaging member 16 may be arranged to be inserted into the shaft 10 or clipped into or onto the shaft 10.

The shaft 10 may be arranged to be collapsible so that the walking stick 1 may be collapsed and carried in a backpack or the like. For example, the shaft 10 may include at least one threaded break such that the shaft 10 may be collapsed or

separated to form two pieces for easier transport when not in use. In this arrangement, the walking stick 1 may be enclosed in a nylon carry bag for transporting the collapsed walking stick 1.

5 The blade 36 of the knife 18 may be a carbon steel or stainless steel blade.

The shoulder strap 22 may be composed of nylon.

The sharpening surface 23 may be a textured metal sharpening surface.

The sizes, shapes and lengths of the various components of the walking stick may be varied accordingly.

10 Since various modifications can be made in my invention as herein above described, and many apparently widely different embodiments of same made within the spirit and scope of the claims without department from such spirit and scope, it is intended that all matter contained in the accompanying specification shall be interpreted as illustrative only and not in a limiting sense.

CLAIMS

1. A walking stick comprising:
 - a hollow shaft having a first end and an open second end;
 - a ground-engaging member arranged to be attached to the first end of
 - 5 the shaft; and
 - a knife having:
 - a handle;
 - a blade extending from the handle; and
 - a threaded end extending from the handle opposite the blade,
 - 10 said threaded end arranged to be attached to the first end of the shaft;
 - said walking stick having a first condition wherein the blade of the knife is inserted into the open second end of the shaft such that the handle of the knife extends therefrom and the ground-engaging member is attached to the first end of the shaft and a second condition wherein the knife is attached to the first end of the shaft
 - 15 such that the blade of the knife extends from the first end of the shaft and the ground-engaging member is attached to the second end of the shaft.
2. The walking stick according to claim 1 including a storage compartment within the hollow shaft.
3. The walking stick according to claim 2 wherein the storage
- 20 compartment is accessible through an end of the shaft.
4. The walking stick according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the blade includes holes for attaching fishing spear clips.
5. The walking stick according to any one of claims 1 to 4 including

a shoulder strap mounted onto the shaft.

6. The walking stick according to any one of claims 1 to 5 including a wrist strap mounted onto the knife.

7. The walking stick according to any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein
5 the ground-engaging member includes a point.

8. The walking stick according to any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the handle of the knife includes a threaded portion proximal to the blade for screwing the knife into the second end.

9. The walking stick according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein
10 the shaft includes a surface for sharpening blade on the shaft.

10. The walking stick according to any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the shaft is collapsible for easier transport.

11. The walking stick according to claim 10 wherein the shaft includes a threaded break for collapsing the shaft.

15 12. The walking stick according to any one of claims 1 to 11 wherein the knife includes a finger guard.

FIGURE 1

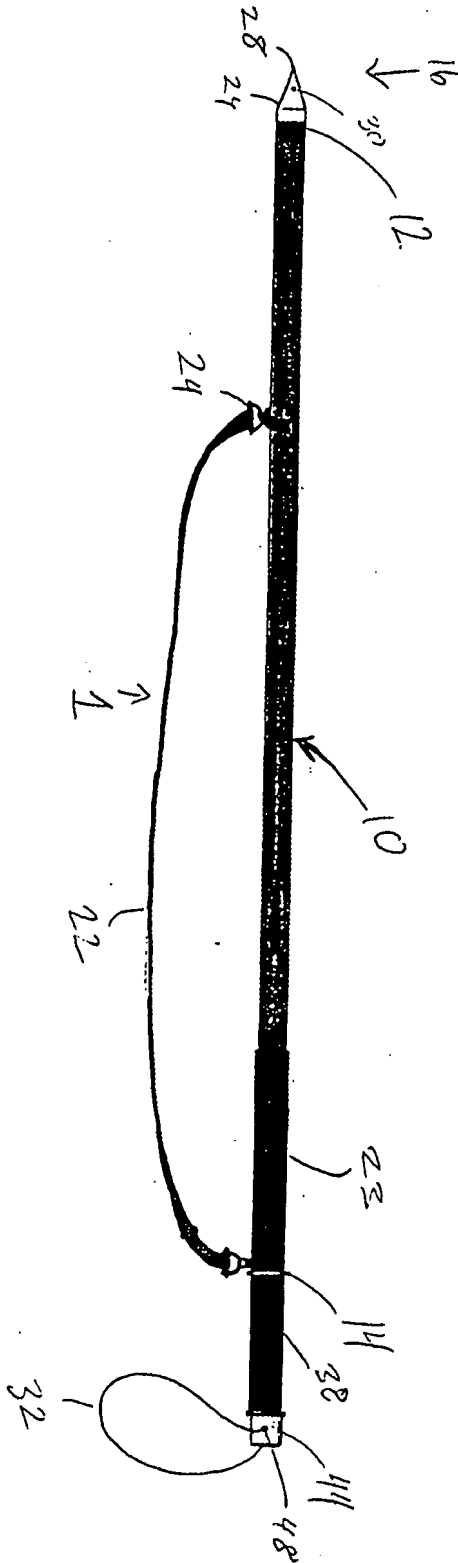


FIGURE 2

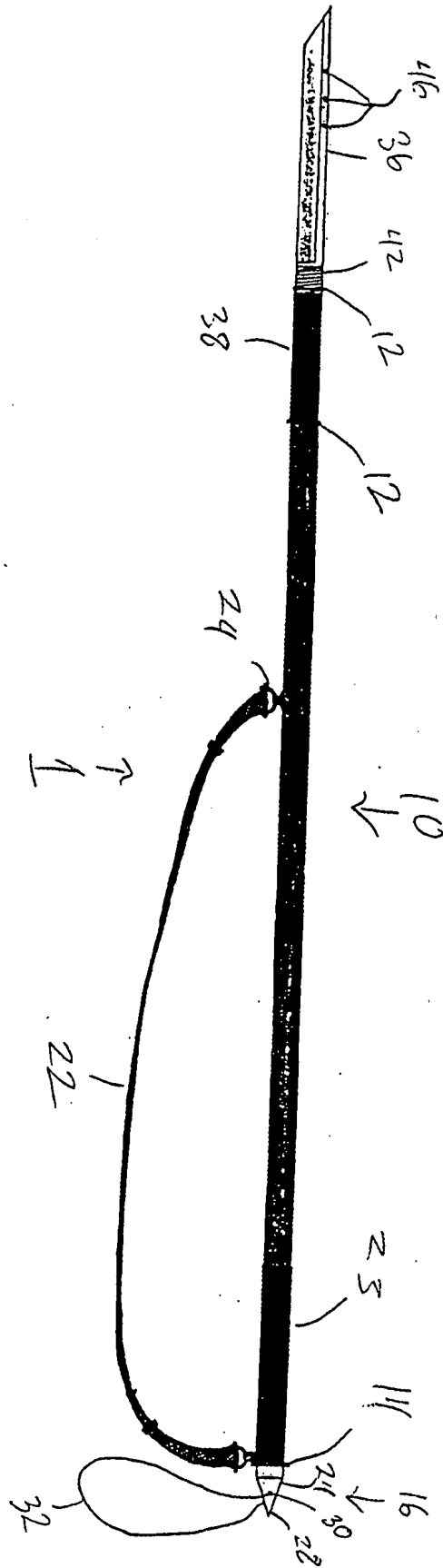


FIGURE 3

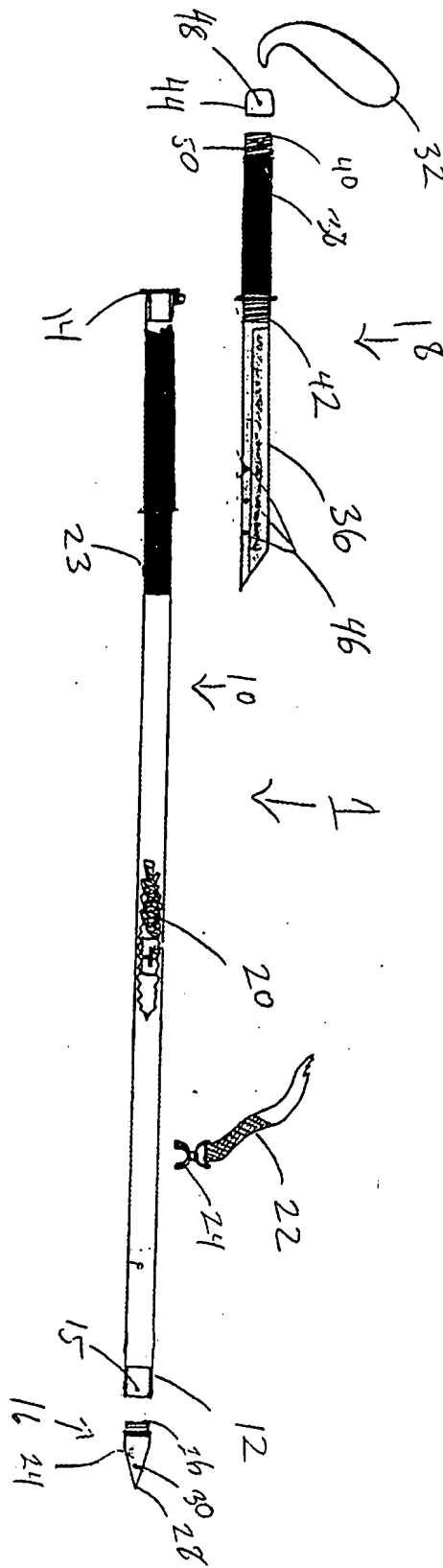


FIGURE 4

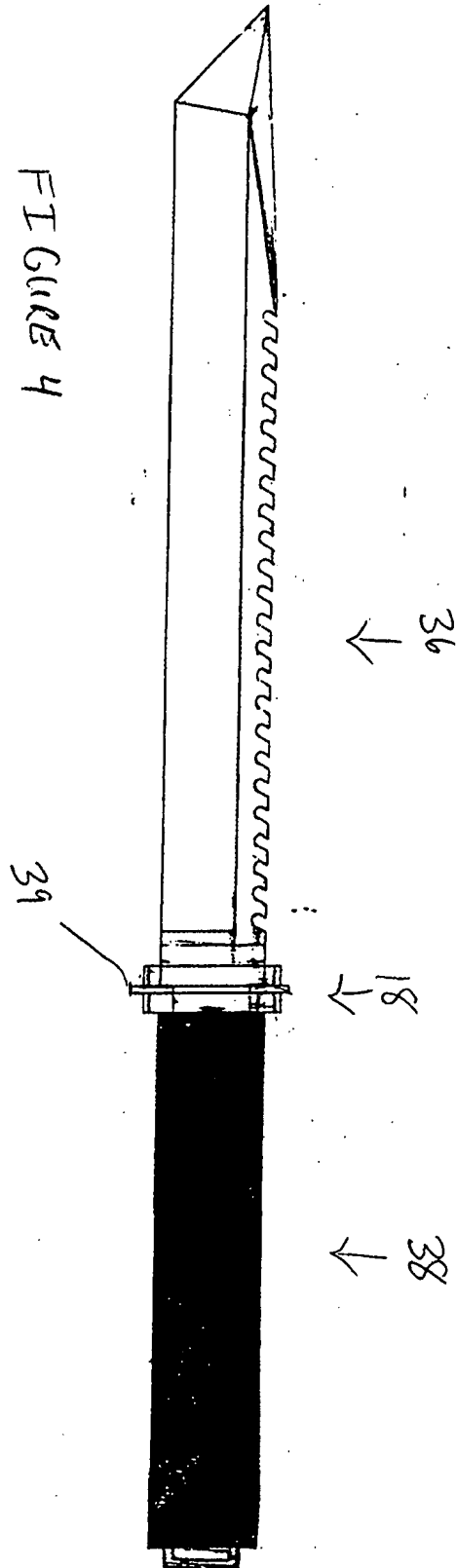


FIGURE 5

